DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 142 084 FL 008 762

TITLE	Universal Esperanto Association. Annual Report 1975-1976. Esperanto Documents, New Series, No. 10A.
INSTITUTION	Universal Esperanto Association, Rotterdam (Netherlands).
PUB DATE	77
NOTE	18p.
AVAILABLE FROM	Universal Esperanto Association, Nieuwe Binnenweg 176, NL-3015BJ Rotterdam, Netherlands (single issues, Hfl. 3.00)
EDRS PRICE	MF-$0.83 HC-$1.67 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS	Administrative Organization; *Annual Reports; *Artificial Languages; Cultural Activities; Cultural Exchange; *International Organizations; International Relations; National Organizations; Periodicals; Youth Programs
IDENTIFIERS	*Esperanto

ABSTRACT

The Universal Esperanto Association publishes an annual report each year, covering April-to-April, in Esperanto. This volume presents an edited English summary of the 1975-1976 report, the aim of which is to describe UEA activities and to inform the non-speaker of the language and culture of Esperanto as they relate to the UEA's program. The document reports on: (1) changes in the UEA's administrative structure; (2) the UEA's financial situation, including activities of its Hodler Institution; (3) the magazine "Esperanto"; (4) the 60th World Congress of Esperanto, the theme of which was "The Social Position of Women"; (5) the UEA's relations with outside organizations, such as UNESCO and the European Teachers' Association; (6) cultural activities; (7) the Youth Section of the UEA (TEJO) and its 31st annual Youth Conference on the theme of "Cultural Exchange"; and (8) discussion of the Centre for Research and Documentation on the World Language Problem, their "Newsletter for Interlinguists," and their journal "La Monda Lingvo-Problemo." A final section is devoted to the national and specialized organizations affiliated with UEA. (AM)

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UNIVERSAL ESPERANTO ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL REPORT 1975-1976

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Esperanto documents describe the work, organization, culture and history of the movement for the adoption of the International Language Esperanto as a second language for international use. They are published in Esperanto and English.

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200–299	1.50
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Esperanto Documents, new series, number 10 A (1977)

UNIVERSAL ESPERANTO ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL REPORT 1975-1976

PREFACE

The International Language Esperanto first came into use in 1887. In that year the initiator of the language, Dr. Ludovic Zamenhof, published a small booklet describing the basis of the language and setting out its fundamental rules and vocabulary. From these small beginnings the language grew from the status of a language project into the large international movement that it constitutes today, with its own culture, literature, and historical traditions. Zamenhof designed his language as a second language for international communication, to take its place beside the various national languages used for national communication. The adoption of Esperanto for this purpose remains the principal aim of the modern Esperanto movement.

The Universal Esperanto Association was founded in 1908 in Switzerland, by the young Hector Hodler. While there already existed a number of national and local organizations for the promotion of Esperanto, the purpose behind the foundation of UEA was to organize on a world-wide basis those active in the promotion of Esperanto.

This continues to be the principal function of UEA. The Association's constitution describes the following aims:

a. to promote the use of the International Language Esperanto;
b. to facilitate all relations, spiritual and material, among men, without distinction as regards nationality, race, religion, politics or language.

The constitution further specifies that the Association is to carry out these aims through the co-ordination of the various Esperanto organizations, the creation of various kinds of international services, the organization of congresses and conferences, and "the cultivation among its members of a strong sense of solidarity, and the development in them of understanding and respect for other peoples". It stresses that UEA is neutral with respect to politics, race and religion, and it further declares that "respect for human rights is a necessary condition for [the Association's] work". For this reason UEA has become increasingly interested of late in matters relating to linguistic and cultural discrimination.

The aims and ideals of the Universal Esperanto Association take on special urgency in a shrinking world, in which the growing need for international communication is frequently hampered by diversity of language. Despite advances in education and the modern emphasis on language learning, difficulties arising from linguistic diversity are becoming greater, rather than receding, in the world today.

UEA carries on its activities in a multitude of ways. Its principal magazine, *Esperanto*, is published each month. It runs its own extensive library, it co-ordinates the world-wide information activity for Esperanto, and it is responsible for the organization of congresses, research on the language, and a host of other activities. Affiliated with the Association are national Esperanto associations in thirty-three countries, and UEA works closely with Esperanto associations in an additional thirty or so geographical areas. Affiliated with the Association, or signatories of co-operation with it, are twenty-two specialised organisations, most of them professional or concerned with particular interests or activities. The Association has 32,033 dues-paying members in nearly ninety countries.

UEA publishes an annual report in Esperanto. It covers the period from one April to the next. The following is a summary and edited version of the report for 1975-76, designed to give a picture of UEA's activities, and to inform the non-speaker of the International Language about the language and culture of Esperanto as they relate to the programme of UEA. The original Esperanto version of this report was prepared by the Association's General Secretary, Mr. E.L.M. Wensing. The English version was edited by Ian Jackson.

July 1976

1. INTRODUCTION

The year 1975-76 brought stabilization to the Association's finances and the first results of the policies adopted by the Committee and Executive Board after their election in 1974. The financial position of UEA has improved greatly in the past year: the 60,000 guilder deficit of two years ago has been converted to a healthy 26,000 guilder surplus in 1975, with prospects for the future also brighter. At the same time the pace of UEA's activities has quickened, and throughout the year the members of the Committee and the Executive, not to mention the many ordinary members of the Association, have extended themselves fully to move the work for Esperanto forward and out into the world at large. They found their inspiration, to a great extent, in the atmosphere of hard work and optimism that characterized the Universal Congress of Esperanto in Copenhagen, and which pervaded the Association's work throughout the year. UEA is now very much in a position to carry out its new programmes, more ambitious than hitherto attempted, with every hope of success both for its short-term prosperity and for its long-term goal of introducing Esperanto into general use as the medium of international communication.

2. STRUCTURE OF THE ASSOCIATION

The Committee remained unchanged in 1975-76, except for the addition of four new Committee Members B (elected by UEA's Local Representatives) and one new Committee Member C (co-opted by the Committee). Total membership is now 69, with four observers.

The Executive Board also remained unchanged. Meetings were held in April and August 1975 and in January and April 1976.

The number of standing commissions appointed by the Committee was increased by the creation of a permanent Commission for Women's Affairs and a Consultative Commission on Education. Other Commissions dealt with External Relations, Finance and Administration, Information and Publicity, Congresses and Conferences, and National Activities.

The new national associations affiliated with UEA: the Icelandic Esperanto Association and the Luxemburg Esperanto Association. The newly recognized South Korean association intends to apply for affiliated status in the near future. The Rotary Association of Esperanto-Speakers signed a contract of co-operation with UEA, bringing the total number of organizations with such contracts to nineteen.

3. ADMINISTRATION

The salaried staff of the Head Office of the Association in Rotterdam was reduced by some 30 per cent this year, in order to hold down expenses for salaries. The effects of this reduction were offset by UEA's Voluntary Service, which provided volunteer workers to take on some of the assignments previously handled by salaried staff. Further increases in the Voluntary Service are planned for the coming year.

The membership of the Association for the year totalled 32,033, as against 32,433 members in 1974-75. This slight reduction was offset by increases in the readership of UEA's magazine.

The Yearbook for 1975 was produced in a single volume of 400 pages, somewhat smaller than in previous years for reasons of economy. The Yearbook for 1976 will also be confined to one volume. The magazine *Esperanto* appeared in its usual eleven issues during 1975, but the youth magazine *Kontakto* did not appear for some months due to editorial problems, now solved. In 1976 the first numbers in the new series of *Esperanto Documents* began to appear. These documents, which replace those previously published by the Centre for Research and Documentation on the World Language Problem (CRD), are produced in separate Esperanto and English series, with the addition of series in other major languages a possibility in the future.

Because of the large investment in the major work *Esperanto en Perspektivo*, published in 1974, UEA published no new books during the year. In January 1976 the Executive Board appointed Dr. Ulrich Lins (Federal Republic of Germany) co-ordinator of its publishing activities.

UEA continued to do a small amount of printing work for outside organizations, for the International League of Esperanto Teachers, and for the World Esperanto Congresses. The Hodler Library continues to expand, and was visited by several scholars during the year. In October 1975 the library received from Mr. Teo Jung sets of nearly every Esperanto periodical that has appeared since the First World War.

The Zamenhof Society, whose members make a special financial contribution to the Association, has got off to an excellent start, with 172 members in 1975, its first year of operation, and a target of 200 for 1976.

4. FINANCES

The financial year 1974 finished with a deficit of 39,000 guilders, caused chiefly by the extremely rapid pace of inflation, for which insufficient provision had been made in the original budget. However, by savings and cuts in the general running of the Association, in 1975 UEA not only wiped out its deficit, but finished the year with a surplus of 26,000 gld., although the original budget for 1975 had projected a small deficit of 12,000 gld.

On the other hand, income from subscriptions remained 7,000 gld. below the budgeted amount, due to a fall in the number of individual members. This in turn can be traced to the recently increased subscription rates – the subscriptions have had to be raised by 67% in two years in order to keep pace with inflation and cope with rising costs. However streamlining of the administration of the Central Office and the assigning of certain tasks to volunteers allowed salaries paid to permanent staff to be cut back to 30,000 gld. below the budgeted figure, and this greatly helped to stabilize the Association's finances. A further 7,000 gld. was saved on the cost of producing the magazine *Esperanto*, without cutting the number of issues, as had at one stage been feared necessary. The members continued their active support, and donations for the general work of the Association totalled a record 13,000 gld. in 1975. A fair profit on the 60th World Congress of Esperanto and a profit from the book-service of 26,000 gld. over the budgeted figure also contributed to the considerably brighter financial picture.

In 1975 the liquid assets of the Association rose once more after falling in 1974, and the total capital of the Association grew by 26%, from 275,000 gld. to 347,000 gld.

In July 1975 the Committee unanimously approved the launching of a comprehensive Financial Programme for the Esperanto Movement. Behind this move lies the realization that, even if the Association finally succeeds in balancing its expenditure against its receipts, as now seems likely, it does not have adequate financial resources to influence the progress of Esperanto in the modern world decisively and effectively; and this problem is not peculiar to UEA alone, but is common to the whole Esperanto movement. The Financial Programme will aim therefore to attract funds from foundations, trusts, state bodies, industry and commerce, and private individuals – an approach which has been too little tried in the past. Although still largely in its preparatory stages, the Programme has already brought in 59,600 gld., and most of this money will be ploughed back into the Programme to create a firm basis for further activity. The Programme is under the direction of the Association's president, Dr. Humphrey Tonkin, in consultation with Mr. E.J. Woessink, the

Executive Board Member for Finances. For the future the aim is to change the basis of the financial structure not only of UEA, but of the entire Esperanto movement.

5. HODLER INSTITUTION 68

This foundation was established in 1968 to collect donations and loans for the work of the Universal Esperanto Association and the progress of the Esperanto movement generally. Its Executive Committee consists of G. Maertens (Belgium; president), Dr. W. Bormann (Federal Republic of Germany), and E. HaverSchmidt (Netherlands). The administrator of the Institution is Miss M.H. Vermaas.

At the Annual General Meeting (May 1975) it was decided to distribute income of 6,700 gld. from the Institution's investments. The Institution financed grants to the Canuto Fund of UEA (2,300 gld.), the Esperanto Academy (1,500 gld.), and the publishing house Stafeto (800 gld.). Smaller grants also went to the Portuguese Esperanto Association, the Esperanto cultural centre Château Grésillon, the League of Esperanto-Speaking Scouts, and the European Esperanto Centre.

Further donations and loans were received during the year. One large sum received by the Institution was the Steffering bequest of 7,800 gld., and one million Italian lira were received and set aside: the interest from this sum will provide the Luigi Minnaja Prize, to be awarded for the first time in the 1976 Arts Competition of UEA.

The capital of the Institution continues to be invested in shares, bonds, and property.

6. THE MAGAZINE

In addition to serving as the official means of communication with the Association's members, the magazine *Esperanto* also carries articles of general interest to Esperanto speakers, original literary pieces, and news on the Esperanto movement. The eleven issues comprising the volume for 1975 totalled 264 pages.

Mr. Simo Milojević continued in his capacity as editor, but had also to deal with much of the technical side of producing the magazine (type-setting, checking proofs, etc.) owing to the reduction in staff at the Head Office. This led initially to delays in production, but administrative steps have been taken to restore the regular publication of the magazine in 1976.

7. CONGRESSES

The 60th World Congress of Esperanto was held in the Danish capital of Copenhagen from 26 July to 2 August 1975 under the patronage of the Prime Minister of Denmark, Mr. Anker Jørgensen. In the chair was Dr. Humphrey Tonkin, President of the Association. A total of 1,227 Esperanto speakers from 53 countries took part. The Honorary Committee consisted of thirteen members, among whom were the Speaker of the Danish Parliament, two Ministers of State, the Mayor of Copenhagen,

and other prominent public figures in Danish life. This year, too, a record number of official diplomatic representatives, twenty-two in all, attended the opening ceremony.

The principal theme of the congress, which took place in the modern Falkoner Centret, was "The Social Position of Women". This subject was dealt with in several meetings, and in particular in the Second Plenary Session. The First Plenary Session was devoted to dealing with the administrative business of the Association.

Every year in the World Congress an International Summer University is held, at which noted specialists in various fields lecture on their subject in the International Language. The University's Rector for 1975 was Dr. Paul Neergaard (State Institute of Plant Pathology, Copenhagen). This particular ISU, the 28th in the series, saw the introduction of seminars, which gave the opportunity of discussing in small groups the topics already dealt with in lecture form.

With the aim of involving the participants more directly in the business of the congress, the 60th World Congress saw the introduction of discussion groups, which dealt with separate aspects of the internal theme of the congress: "The role of the individual in the Esperanto movement".

The silver jubilee year of the Arts Competition included in Copenhagen a special celebration event. More than thirty meetings of specialized Esperanto organizations took place during the congress. The UEA Committee met in seven sessions and worked with unusual efficiency in a most friendly atmosphere. The Executive Board also held seven meetings, to which were invited, as necessary, members of the Executive of UEA's youth section, TEJO, members of the organizing committee of the next congress, and others.

In addition to business meetings, lectures and similar activities, the World Congress has another side: its programme of cultural activities and entertainment. The Danish Evening, in which the cultural life of the host country was presented, was one of the most successful items of the whole congress. Among other memorable events were the production by the professional Bulgarian Esperanto Theatre, of *The Servant of Two Masters* by Carlo Goldoni, a lecture recital by Danielle Béguin, and the brilliant performances of the Polish actress Jadwiga Gibczynska in her own play *Marie Curie* and in the work of the contemporary Danish writer Finn Methling, *Journey to Green Shadows*.

A number of other meetings were organized in parallel with the 60th World Congress. The 43rd International Congress of Blind Esperanto Speakers took place the previous week in Hillerød, at the same time as the 31st Conference of the World Organization of Esperanto-Speaking Youth (TEJO) was being held in Fredericia. The 15th International Children's Congress (for Esperanto-speaking children, especially those from families in which Esperanto is used in the home) took place during the same week as the World Congress, in Hellerup.

The Association's Executive Board has announced the selection of Athens as meeting-place for the 61st World Congress (31 July to 7 August 1976), and of Reykjavik for the 62nd Congress (30 July to 6 August 1977). The 63rd Congress will be held in the Bulgarian city of Varna in 1978. A full account of the Copenhagen congress is contained in *Esperanto Document* 3 A (1975), published by UEA.

8. RELATIONS WITH OUTSIDE ORGANIZATIONS

The establishment of working groups in Brussels, Paris and New York enabled UEA to intensify its efforts to bring the International Language to the attention of the international bodies with headquarters in these cities. These working groups are made up of UEA members, and include diplomats, members of staff of the various international bodies, and other qualified people. In addition to these innovations, new contacts were made with a number of non-governmental bodies and other organizations.

The external relations of the Association are coordinated by a Commission headed by the Association's President, Dr. H. Tonkin. The Commission on External Relations of UEA's Youth Section, TEJO, also works closely with the UEA Commission.

8.1 International Governmental Organizations

Since 1954 the Association has enjoyed consultative relations with Unesco. As a result it has similar contacts with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations. The Association is represented at Unesco by Mr. Emmanuel Chicot, who is assisted by a team of four. At the United Nations in New York UEA is represented by Mr. Mark Starr, who also heads the working party set up in the last year to prepare a comprehensive programme for the gradual introduction of Esperanto into the work of the U.N.

In April 1976 UEA began the publication of a new bulletin, "The U.N. and Us", which aims to link those working for Esperanto at the U.N. and Unesco, and to serve as a general source of information on activities related to the U.N. The activity of several national Esperanto associations in the field of external ralations has continued. In Canada, Switzerland and Colombia, among other countries, the national associations work closely with their respective Unesco Commissions; this channel of contacts with Unesco through its national commissions could play a major part in future campaigns.
The first in the new series of *Esperanto Documents* published by UEA deals fully with the twenty years of co-operation between UEA and Unesco.

As a contribution to the Decade to Combat Racism UEA is now exploring the possibility of holding a joint seminar with Unesco on linguistic discrimination in the context of racial discrimination.

1975 was International Women's Year, and the considerable work of UEA in connection with it is described in *Esperanto Document* 5 E (1976) and partly in 3 A (1975). All activities were supervised by a five-member commission chaired by Mrs. Elsbeth Bormann (Federal Republic of Germany). The work of the commission culminated in the 60th World Congress (see under Section 7), but a great deal was achieved also at international, national and local levels. The Association was represented at the IWY Conference (Mexico, June 1975) by Mr. Mark Starr and Mrs. L. de Bancalari. On the question of language barriers hindering the unity of women and on the parallels between discrimination on grounds of language and discrimination on grounds of sex, Esperanto speakers found a fascinating and important theme, which they emphasised also in the non-Esperanto news media. The Committee of UEA in Copenhagen decided to renew the mandate of the Commission on IWY, which will in future be known simply as the Commission on Women's Affairs.

A protest to the World Health Organization against its adoption of two further working languages (Arabic and Chinese) and the negative effect of such a step on the Organization's budget was instigated by Mr. Claude Piron (Switzerland). It had notable results in the press, and several dozen newspapers throughout Europe published articles on the subject. The campaign, which sought to draw attention to the cost of multilingualism in WHO and the consequent waste of vital financial resources, is continuing, mainly through parliamentary activity in several countries.

Activity for Esperanto in the European Communities, organized from the European Esperanto Centre and the new Brussels working group, has increased considerably in the past year. The organizers of the European Esperanto Congress (Eindhoven, Netherlands 1976) sent letters to all 250 members of the European Parliament to inform them of the coming congress and of the unique solution that Esperanto speakers have chosen to surmount the language barrier. Several members of parliament expressed support for these efforts. Meanwhile the European Centre for Culture has continued to publish its magazine, *European Documents*, in Esperanto.

The final session of the Conference on Security and Co-operation coincided with the 60th World Congress. The Committee of UEA sent an official message to Helsinki, pointing out "that the ever-growing problem of multilingualism is a serious brake on the freedom and extension of co-operation that is the aim of the Conference," and proposing "that the committee of governmental experts, who will supervise the implementation of the decisions taken at the Conference, should consider positively the steps already undertaken to apply Esperanto in social, political and scientific media... and should assist in furthering those efforts as far as possible."

8.2 Non-Governmental Organizations

Thanks to the efforts of the International Association of Esperanto-speaking Scientists and of its president, Prof. B. Popović, the World Federation of Scientific Workers has now definitely decided to publish its magazine *Scientific World* in Esperanto.

The European Teachers' Association has recently set up a commission to look into the value of teaching the International Language, thanks to the efforts of the International League of Esperanto-Speaking Teachers (ILEI).

A group in Montreal (Canada) led by Mr. U.P. Ronald is republishing the well-known multilingual phrase-book on sports, *Saluton, Amiko!*, originally compiled by Mr. Ralph Harry, now the Australian Ambassador to the United Nations, and used in the Munich Olympics. It is hoped that this will be distributed to competitors taking part in the Olympics in 1976.

Although not itself adopting a political position, UEA is following attentively the activity of Mr. A. Menabene (Italy) to gain support for Esperanto among socialist and social-democrat parties and organizations, and the Association is giving assistance where it can. A conference of socialist parties on the language problem and Esperanto is scheduled to be held in Rome in 1977.

Thanks to a donation from Miss Betty Salt which UEA has transferred, in accordance with her wish to promote Esperanto in the scouting movement, to the League of Esperanto-speaking Scouts, it is planned to publish a booklet in several national language editions on the various international programmes of the scouting movement and their potential links with Esperanto.

UEA has continued its close relations with the Esperanto-speaking Sennacieca Asocio Tutmonda (World Association for Non-Nationhood), and co-operates informally with it in appropriate non-political fields. Speakers of Esperanto are active in many national non-governmental organizations: for example in U.N. Associations, tourist organizations, cultural and professional organizations. The Association is working to intensify activity in national U.N. Associations, in accordance with a recommendation by the Committee of UEA. Activity among world federalists also remains high.

8.3 Diplomatic and Parliamentary Contacts

Diplomatic representation at the 60th Universal Congress of Esperanto was even more impressive than in the previous year. Twenty-two countries sent official representatives, and six of these representatives addressed the Congress in Esperanto. It is questionable how far this signifies a serious interest in Esperanto on the part of the governments concerned, but it does show the growing prestige and recognition which the language enjoys today. At the same time several diplomats who already speak Esperanto are now taking a more active part in the Esperanto movement.

Parliamentary activity has quickened considerably in pace. UEA has appointed a new Officer for Parliamentary Activity, Mr. G. Leon-Smith, and launched a campaign of co-ordination. The British Parliamentary Group has now grown to 56 M.P.'s, while in France the Members of Parliament are being organized in connection with a bill to allow the official teaching of Esperanto in schools. In the countries of the European Community UEA is working closely with the European Esperanto Centre, and is looking into ways of effectively influencing the European Parliament. The Esperanto Lobby, which supervises parliamentary activity in Britain, has begun the publication of a newsletter under the editorship of Mr. David Curtis to act as a link among those active in parliamentary work in the various countries.

9. CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

The 28th session of the International Summer University (Copenhagen, 27th July to 1st August 1975) consisted of eight lectures by well-known scholars, and several seminars. Five subjects were covered in the seminars: linguistics, natural science, literature, education, and women's studies. Two lectures were directly linked to the principal theme of the Congress: "The Social Position of Women". The programme was organized by a three-member commission under Dr. Jonathan Pool (USA).

The Arts Competition had 88 literary entries by 39 authors from 17 countries. This was slightly less than the number of entries in 1974. This year the competition had a new section: photography. The Committee of Judges was that established in 1974 under the presidency of Baldur Ragnarsson (Iceland), with Alec Venture (Britain) as secretary. The new photographic section was judged by Torben Kehlet (Denmark) and Vilho Setälä (Finland). For the first time a comprehensive report was presented by the judges on the quality of the various entries. Prizes for original and translated poetry and prose went to authors from Bulgaria, Denmark, England, Hungary, Scotland, Italy, and the United States. The Harabagiu Cup for New

Talent went to Mirosław Wiechowski, of Poland. The first prize in the photographic section was not awarded, but second prize went to Zoltan Fejer of Hungary. The third prize was won by Miss Raymonde Perault (France).

At the end of 1975 details of two new prizes were announced. The Raymond Schwartz Prize, named after the well-known Esperanto humorist, will be awarded in 1980 for the best "piece of Esperanto prose fiction not yet published". The Minnaja Prize, in honour of the active Italian Esperantist, the late Luigi Minnaja, will be awarded each year for the best essay to be presented in Esperanto.

The Summer University Courses, which take place every other year in the International Language, are held under the auspices of the Association. In 1975 they took place in the University of Antwerp, Belgium. UEA also made direct contributions to Esperanto culture during the year through the various artistic events in the World Congress, through the Hodler Library and through the magazine *Esperanto*, the December issue of which was especially devoted to literature and carried contributions by several prominent writers in Esperanto.

The Association's Tape-Recording Service (directed by Rüdiger Eichholz of Canada) was little used during the year despite the increasing stock of programmes available. The Worldwide Correspondence Service, providing overseas correspondents for those interested in learning or using Esperanto and under the guidance of Miss C. Heuter (France), was hampered by several postal strikes, but nevertheless handled 1,760 addresses in 1975 (compared with 1,255 in 1974).

The Review Committee on Textbooks, set up to keep a check on the standard of textbooks in Esperanto, and the Committee on the International Examination are both in the process of reorganization. The first is for the time being directed by Mr. D.B. Gregor (Britain) and the second by Dr. J.C. Wells (Britain). A new leaflet has been published by UEA, containing suggestions on how best to celebrate and publicize the annual International Friendship Week in February. In 1976 the Friendship Week again attracted considerable public attention.

UEA is the chief international link among speakers of Esperanto. As an establisher of standards, a guardian of quality, and an initiator of activities, it has therefore especially great responsibilities. The Association does its best to support activities that contribute to Esperanto culture – literary prizes, radio and television programmes, publishing activities, the development of textbooks and teaching aids, congresses, lecture tours, theatrical groups, magazines, and so on. Outstanding work is being done in many areas: for example in the publishing house Stafeto, in the programmes of Polish Radio (which broadcasts each day in Esperanto) and the television course on Slovak Television, in the important work of the Château Grésillon in France and the Esperanto Cultural Centre in Switzerland, and in publishing work in Japan. These various independent activities require in their turn a coherent and strong Esperanto public, capable of understanding and keeping alive the cultural tradition of the International Language and of adapting that tradition to new needs. The year 1975-76 was for the most part successful in this respect.

10. YOUTH

The Youth Section of UEA is the World Organization of Esperanto-speaking Youth (TEJO), which runs its own programme of independent activities, though in co-

operation with UEA where activities overlap. TEJO has affiliated sections in 29 countries.

The Committee of TEJO consists of 39 members, of whom most are drawn from the affiliated national sections. During the 31st Conference of TEJO in Fredericia (19 to 26 July 1975) the Committee met in plenary sessions three times. The work of the Committee was co-ordinated until July 1975 by the general secretary and from August onward by the secretary to the Committee, by means of personal correspondence and the information bulletin *Koncize*.

The Executive Board of TEJO serves for a twelve-month period of office. In Fredericia the Committee elected the following Executive for 1975-76: Claude Nourmont (France; president), Savas G. Tsiturides (Greece; vice-president), Klaus Schubert (Federal Republic of Germany; vice-president), Brunetto Casini (Italy; general secretary), Ineke Emmelkamp (Netherlands; secretary to the Committee), Paul Peeraerts (Belgium; responsibility for finance), and the following ordinary members – Juan Azcuénaga (Spain), Margarita Najera (Mexico), Stefan MacGill (New Zealand), and Angel Todorov (Bulgaria). The Board met during the Conference in Fredericia, and remained in written contact throughout the year.

It is difficult to put an exact figure on the membership of UEA's Youth Section, since TEJO's national affiliates do not officially announce the number of members that they have. It seems likely, however, that TEJO has several thousand young people within its ranks. The most active national sections at present are those in Denmark, the Federal Republic of Germany, Spain, and New Zealand.

The general administration of TEJO is under the supervision of the Central Office of UEA, but numerous special activities spring from the office of TEJO's Commission on External Relations (KER), previously in Amsterdam and now moved to The Hague.

Noteworthy among the various services TEJO offers its members is the so-called Passport Service, whereby travellers are provided with free accommodation during foreign journeys. Many more members this year took advantage of this unique opportunity and the service continues to expand.

TEJO's 31st International Youth Conference had as its principal theme 'Cultural Exchange'. This topic was dealt with in lectures and discussion groups spread throughout the week of the conference. At the same time the External Relations Commission (KER) arranged a seminar aimed especially at non-Esperanto speakers on "Language and Decolonization", with simultaneous translation provided in languages other than Esperanto. TEJO also organized the traditional 'Youth Day' during the 60th World Congress of Esperanto. In October 1975 the External Relations Commission organized a seminar in Coimbra, Portugal, on "The Role of Language and Culture in Political Oppression". In addition KER represented TEJO in six meetings held by other international organizations.

11. RESEARCH AND DOCUMENTATION

In the first part of 1975 discussion on the future of the Centre for Research and Documentation on the World Language Problem (CRD) continued under the Acting Director of CED, Dr. Jonathan Pool (State University of New York, U.S.A.). On the

basis of the comments received a report was compiled, which prompted further discussion in the Committee of UEA and in a separate meeting of the Centre during the World Congress in Copenhagen. The Committee recommended that in future CRD should confine itself chiefly to research on language problems, leaving the task of publicity and research on Esperanto to UEA itself in co-operation with CRD. To this end UEA began the publication of *Esperanto Documents* — a series of studies and reports on Esperanto and the Esperanto movement under the editorship of Dr. H. Tonkin. In January 1976 the Executive of UEA appointed an Executive Board of CRD, consisting of Dr. Pool, Mr. D. Blanke (German Democratic Republic), and Dr. U. Lins (Federal Republic of Germany).

The *Newsletter for Interlinguists*, a new CRD publication, edited by Ulrich Lins under the auspices of CRD, appeared twice in the period of this report. The editor of the journal *La Monda Lingvo-Problemo* is Dr. Richard Wood (Adelphi University, U.S.A.). After a period of irregularity the issues are now appearing normally once more, though the volumes are no longer linked to the calendar year. *LMLP* is now firmly established as one of the leading sociolinguistic periodicals. Its articles are in several national languages, with comprehensive summaries in Esperanto.

The field of research and documentation is too vast to be adequately handled by CRD or UEA alone, and much valuable work is done by the specialist associations, the national associations, various publications, and by bodies completely outside the circle of UEA, such as the Soviet Academy of Sciences, the International Esperanto Museum in Vienna, and the American Association for Esperanto Studies and various universities. For the future UEA is looking towards a campaign among its members to make them more aware and informed about language problems and languages generally.

12. THE ESPERANTO MOVEMENT

Since the Universal Esperanto Association is the principal international organization of Esperanto speakers, its work covers a wide range of activities. These activities tend to spill over into the work of other Esperanto associations, particularly at the national level. UEA itself consists of individual members, associate members, and affiliated and co-operating bodies of a specialized nature, along with affiliated national Esperanto associations. No report on UEA's activities would thus be complete without some attention being given to the work of the affiliated national associations and specialized organizations.

Dr. W. Bormann is the member of the Executive Board of UEA with responsibility for co-ordinating the work of the national associations. The UEA Commission on National Activities met at the Copenhagen congress and approved a programme of future activities. In its report to the Committee the Commission pointed out the possibilities of co-operation among the national associations themselves, and between the national associations and UEA. Co-operation of this kind has already led to the holding of the 1st Pacific Congress of Esperanto (January 1976, Melbourne). It was attended by Esperanto speakers from Australia, New Zealand, Japan, U.S.A., and Papua-New Guinea. The national associations in the countries of the EEC also co-operate closely with one another.

UEA's Coordinator of Regional Activity is Dr. R. Corsetti (Italy), who is responsible for those countries where there is no organized association affiliated with UEA —

chiefly in Africa, Asia, and Latin America. In Africa groups in contact with UEA and supported by it are particularly active in Tunisia, Morocco, Senegal and Zaire. In Asia there is similar activity in Iran, in Turkey, where the Turkish Esperanto Association has just been refounded, and in the Philippines. In Latin America Esperanto speakers are especially active in Colombia, Venezuela, and Cuba. A campaign to provide information material on the International Language for use in the Third World is now under way: translators for English and French are easy to come by, but there has been more difficulty finding people able and willing to provide material in Arabic and Swahili, among other languages. However the campaign to furnish Esperanto dictionaries for African and Asian languages is progressing well. Help towards the progress of Esperanto in developing countries has come from a number of national associations in the West, and the Japanese have also shown an interest in spreading the International Language in Asia.

The work of the specialized Esperanto associations (coordinated by UEA's Vice-President Professor C. Støp-Bowitz) includes the publication of scholarly periodicals (of which the most outstanding are probably those for scientists, biblical scholars, doctors and lawyers), the organization of conferences and meetings, and, particularly important, the development of terminology. The International Federation of Esperanto-Speaking Railway Employees is constantly concerned with questions of technical terminology in addition to its many other activities, and the International Motorists' Esperanto Club is now putting the finishing touches to a dictionary of motoring terms in seven languages which it is hoped to publish soon. The International Association of Esperanto-Speaking Scientists has also continued its work on Esperanto terminology in several branches of science.

A task of vital importance in a movement that aims to influence public opinion in favour of Esperanto is that of keeping the public informed of current activity. Steps have been taken throughout the year to give all significant achievements of UEA the fullest possible coverage in the Press, while the national associations too have publicised their activities within their own countries. The national associations in Britain, the Federal Republic of Germany, Bulgaria, and Poland are especially active in this respect. The Head Office of UEA and the UEA Commission on Information have continued their essential work in this field, and TEJO has been active in spreading information and awakening interest among younger people. Radio broadcasts in Esperanto are made regularly by Polish Radio, and by twelve other stations around the world. In October 1975 Slovak Television began a seventeen-lesson course on Esperanto, and in January 1976 Radio Vatican announced its intention to broadcast from time to time in Esperanto.

The activity of UEA has gathered momentum steadily throughout the year 1975-76 to meet the growing awareness of the need for a single neutral language for international use. Standing on the threshold of 1976-77 the Association looks forward to further progress in the coming months and to continuing success in its series of campaigns and programmes.

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